

Rusk Warns Viet Politicians Of U.S. Restiveness on War

By BERNARD GWERTZMAN
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Secretary of State Dean Rusk has warned South Viet Nam's politicians about restiveness in the United States over the continued turmoil within South Viet Nam.

In one of his sharpest comments on the political scene in South Viet Nam, Rusk urged the Vietnamese factions to push ahead for a constitutional government "and set aside some of these issues that appear to be secondary to the issue of achieving a safe country—issues about which they can perhaps quarrel at their leisure later on."

In the first press conference since March 25, Rusk was asked yesterday about reports from Capitol Hill that many Americans "are getting somewhat restive about the idea of shedding American blood on behalf of people who, for one reason or another, good or bad, don't seem to be able to settle their own quarrels."

Some newsmen expected Rusk to pass over the reference to American morale, but instead he said, "I think it should be obvious to our friends in South Viet Nam that there is a restiveness here."

He said that the Vietnamese politicians should recognize that "their own attitude, their own solidarity, their own efforts are crucial elements" to the feeling of those in the United States who "are called upon to make a major effort to support the independence, the safety, of a country like South Viet Nam." He did not say what the United States would do if Saigon does not pay heed to the restiveness here.

Centers on Viet Nam

The news conference centered primarily on the situation in Viet Nam, and especially the current crisis touched off by the Saigon government's decision to send troops to Da Nang on Sunday to wrest control from dissidents.

Rusk repeated the administration's general line since the crisis began—that the warring factions should put aside their differences and get on with the war effort against the Viet Cong and the promised goal of an elected, constitutional government.

Many officials believe both the military and political efforts have faltered because of the political unrest.

"We believe that in this situation, it is very important that all of those elements who join in rejecting what Hanoi and the National Liberation Front are trying to do in South Viet Nam should set aside lesser differences and pull themselves together for a national effort."

Annoyed at Bickering

It was clear that the administration is annoyed by the constant political bickering among the various factions—most especially between the military government and the militant Buddhists led by Thich Tri Quang. The Tri Quang forces virtually were in control of the cities of Da Nang and Hue until the government troops flew to Da Nang.

On Monday, Tri Quang sent a

mat in Hue "has seen Tri Quang" and has informed him of the U.S. attitude on the need for everyone to work together.

In keeping with the administration's public neutrality on the rights and wrongs of Ky's intervention, Rusk said "he would not want to pass a judgment" on it—but he pointed out that the military directorate felt it was necessary to restore Saigon's "writ" in Da Nang.

He said that Gen. Ky also has been informed of the U.S. view on unity, as well as has "anyone and everyone whose ear we could get, with whom we are in touch, and that means a great many."

Rusk agreed with U.S. offi-

cials who had said civil war would not break out, although he said "there could be civil strife of one sort of another."

On other matters, Rusk said in an opening statement that there is a "high degree of unanimity" among the other 14 members of NATO in response to France's decision to sever its ties with NATO's military organization.

There are authoritative reports that the United States favors moving NATO's military headquarters from Paris to Brussels. But Rusk said any decision would await full consultation with other NATO members at the ministerial meeting in Brussels starting June 6.

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